

William Galbraith:

Welfare needs revision

The abuses in the Food Stamp Program are increasing and little can be done to prevent them, according to William F. Galbraith, an assistant to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin.

Galbraith, the Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Congressional Relations, said that all but 30 counties in the U.S. have established programs. Two years ago less than half of all the U.S. counties had food stamp programs.

But with the increased number of participants has also come more people who take

advantage of the stamps. Especially in urban areas, Galbraith noted, instances of counterfeiting stamps are not uncommon.

ANOTHER MISUSE of the stamps involves the exchange of stamps for cash at approximately 50 percent of their actual value. "We've seen people with Cadillacs and mink stoles driving away with groceries purchased by food stamps," he said.

The only action that can be taken is through arrest and conviction of offenders, which is not really a solution. He noted that these abuses are directly related to the problems of crime in our country.

"The best solution is the enactment of President Nixon's minimum income program," said Galbraith, a native Nebraskan in town for Masters Week. Welfare as it exists today

encourages persons not to work. However, recipients of minimum income could work and not lose all of their support from the federal government.

"OUR DEPARTMENT is trying to show urban congressmen the relationship between the problems of the cities and rural out-migration. Opportunity must be created in rural areas to reverse this trend," Galbraith remarked.

Rural problems in the U.S. are not receiving Congress' primary consideration because 70 percent of the people in the U.S. live in cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more. Senators and representatives from urban areas have more pressing concerns with the needs of their own constituents rather than those of the farmers, he said.

The Agriculture Department has commonly been referred to as "The People's Department" because it influences every home in America every day of the year.

"FEW PEOPLE REALIZE that 90 percent of the department's total man hours are directed towards concerns of the general public while only 10 percent is devoted to farmers alone. This work involves primarily consumer protection through meat inspection, insect and pesticide control, and the food stamp program," he said.

Because criticism has been leveled at the bureaucratic maze in the various federal departments, President Nixon



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has proposed reorganization of both the cabinet and the department structures. According to Galbraith this is primarily a system of keeping books, while trying to avoid repetition and inefficiency.

Currently there are two federal agencies involved with

providing aid to create better housing. The Federal Housing Authority (FHA), under the Department of Housing and Urban Development, controls housing in cities with a population of 50,000 or more.

GALBRAITH NOTED that another FHA, the Farmer's Home Administration, governed by the Department of Agriculture, provides assistance to rural areas and communities not considered urban.

Although the functions of the Farmer's Home Administration are not completely involved with home improvement, Galbraith considered the combination of the home loan functions of these agencies to be in the interest of more responsible and efficient government.

He noted that changes in this direction are currently beginning, although the legislative processes necessary are slow. "Reorganization could continue within various departments until the end of this century," he said.

CALENDAR

- 12:30 p.m. - Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship; Union
- 2:30 p.m. - Dean's Search Committee; Union
- 3 p.m. - Miss U. of N. Committee; Union
- 5:30 p.m. - Engineering Toastmasters; Union
- 6 p.m. - Special Services Tutoring; Union
- 6 p.m. - Kosmet Klub Exec.; Union
- 6:15 p.m. - Red Cross; Union
- 6:30 p.m. - Pi Lambda Theta; Union
- 6:30 p.m. - Builders Exec.; Union
- 6:30 p.m. - Kosmet Klub; Union
- 7 p.m. - Alpha Kappa Psi; Union
- 7 p.m. - Builders; Union
- 7:30 p.m. - Wildlife Club; Union
- 8 p.m. - Council on Student Life; Union
- 8 p.m. - Kappa Alpha Psi; Union
- 8 p.m. - Students International Meditation Society; Union
- 9 p.m. - ASUN Education Committee; Union

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